YORKSHIRE DIALECT WORDS
USED IN SKIPTON & CONONLEY
Noted from 1945 onwards

A.

c ABOON - above "It didn't cost aboon ten shillings"

c ADDLE - to earn by labour (ME Addlen) "I couldn't addle much at that job"

c AGAIT - to begin "He gat agait talking about religion"

ABACK - Surprised "I wor rather ta'en aback when he came over to me"

ACROOK - Crooked, accross, awry, "Our family seemed to get acrock wi' theirs"

AFORE - Before

AND ALL - (AN'ALL) Also "His brother came an'all"

AFTER - about to, seeking to "That sheep's after lambing"

c AT AFTER - afterwards "I'll have mi' tea now and finish mi' work at after"

c ASS-HOLE (ASS'OIL) Area under firegrate (sometimes a pit) for ashes to drop into

c AX to ask. "If he axe a fish, wole he gere him an eddre" Math Ch7 (Trans Wyecliffe)
"But that I axe, why that the fifthe man was noon housbonde to the Samaritan"
Chaucer Wife of Bath's prologue.

ALLEYS - Marbles Glass alleys were stoppers from Mineral water bottles

A.

ALLOWANCE - Alchoholic drink "He liked his little drop o' 'owance"

AS } Which. "Are they t'same sheep as I saw yesterday"?
'AT } That. Are they t'same sheep 'at I saw yesterday?

AGEAN (1) Against "He bumped his heead agean t'wall"
(2) Again "That's not reight - tha'll her ta do it agean"

'AUF - Half

c BABBY - Baby

BACK END - Autumn

c BARN① - A child (Old Norse BARN = a child) not pronounced Bairn as in Scotland
A mother frustrated by mischievous child would often exclaim "Ayye barn o'me whativver sal a' do wi' thi"

c BECK - A stream (OE Bæc, ME Bek, ONorse Bekkr) a name common to all northern dialects

c BENK - A bench (OE Benk, OHGer. Bank = bench)

c BENCIL (BENSEL) - to punish "I'll have to bencil that young dog"

c BLEB - A blister or blemish

c BOAKEN - to retch or attempt to vomit. "The sight of it made me boaken"

BO

c BOGGART - A goblin or mischievous spirit. Turner Cote a small barn on Cross Hills Road. Cononley. used to be known as t'boggart 'oile

c BRAY - to thrash or bruise (OE Brayen = to crush, OHGer Brekhan = to break)

c BRASS - Money "I'me allus short o' brass"

BADLY - Ill, sick "There's a lot of folk off work badly"

B

C **BRAT** - A child (The term is not always used in contempt)

C **BIELD** - Shelter in an open space (such as hedge wall or tree)
(OE bielden = to protect)

BLEWED - to eat up completely or to spend up. (OE Blawen = to blow)

C **BUFFET** - A stool

BLACKSPICE - Blackberries

C **BUMMELKITES** - Blackberries

BLEGGIN - Act of gathering Blackberries "do you want to come bleggin with me"

C **BLATE** - to shout out loud. (Perhaps from Bleat. OE Blǽtan, Cry of a sheep

BLIRT - to speak out excitedly without forethought

C **BEAL** - a handle "I like that jug because it has a good beeal on it"

C **BAWL** - to cry, to weep, to shout out loud (ME Bawlen)

BODGE - to patch, or to repair often in a makeshift way. (To bodge up something was looked upon as being thrifty and commendable unlike a botched job which suggests careless, bungled workmanship

C **BLEARED-UP** - Half blind with tears (ME Bleren = to blur)

BAND – String (OE Binden = to bind. ME bande = a strip) A person making a hopless attempt at doing a job is said to "Frame like a man made o' band"

BAND END –

C BLETHER – a bladder (OE Bleedr) "Blether-eeah" = Bladder-head

C BLATHER – to make a big fuss, to chatter foolishly.

C BORN DAYS – Life, experience "Ah nivver saw owt like it in all mi born days"

C BACK'ARDS-WAY – Backwards "She fell back'ards-way down stairs"

C BELLYWARK – Stomach/Belly ache.

C BETHINK – to recollect something "I'll write to him tomorrow if I can bethink myself"

C BIT – A while "I called to see my mother and stopped a bit"

C BLUE MILK – Milk with all the cream taken off

C BREEKS – Breeches (OE Breoc)

C BROKEN – Broke (OE Brocen) "T'weather's broken"

C BUZZARD – A coward

C " – A general name for large moths that fly by night

BOTTOM - A thorough job e.g. cleaning a house, get to bottom of dirt
BOTTOMED - "It looks good now that it has been bottomed.
BOTTOMING - "It needs a good bottoming"

BRASSENT - Boastful self assertive person

BETWEEN-WHILES - Interval between completing one business + starting another

BOOSES - Stalls for cattle

BOSKINS

BARN② - going "Weer wor t' barn when I saw thee"

BACKSTONE - a large slab of slate or sheet of iron under which a fire was made in order to make oatcakes

BOTTLE - No bottle = unreliable deceitful person, better left alone
"Dont have anything to do with him - he's no bottle"

BLACK CLOCKS

BOTHER, BOTHERING - Illicit sexual relationship "He used to bother with Mrs So and So". "She bothered with ___ for years"

BEE-ASTS (Beasts) - Cattle

- Continued after XYZ →

C.

C CHANCE-BARN – An illegitimate child

C CHIG, CHIGGLE, CHIGGIN' – to chew, chewing.

CAP, CAPPED – to surprise, surprised "That'll cap him"
CAPPING "I wor fair capped"

CADGE – to beg or acquire by imposing on someone's good nature

C CHILDER – children

C CHIMLEY (CHIMLA') – Chimney

C CHUNTER – to complain, to mutter incessantly

C CLEAT – the flower of Coltsfoot from which Cleat wire was made

C CLIP – A mischievous child, a lively young person

C CLAGGY – Sticky or muddy

C CLARTY – Muddy "The gateway was clarty" "His shoes were clarted up"

C CLOUT – piece of cloth or a rag. e.g Dishclout, Floorclout.

C CODGER – a slightly eccentric old man

C.

COTE - A small building in field or moor built for protection mainly for livestock

COIT - A coat

COW CLAP - Small heap of cow dung.

CRANCH - Crunch "He sat there cranching away at his toast"

CROCK - An old ewe (Drawen of Crokke yowes & selled $\overset{xx}{iiij}$ - from Lord Henry Cliffords Household book)

- A broken down vehicle or dicrepit old person. (ME Crok =a disabled animal, Norweg. Dial. Krokje =a brokendown horse or person)

CRONK - to perch or crouch "An old woman was cronked by the fire"

CRUD - Curd "Thundery weather has caused the milk to Crud"

CHAMPION - very well, very good, well done, splendid. "That was champion" "How are you? - Champion thank you"

CUCKOO - A childrens name for a ball "Where's my cuckoo" "let's play cuckoo"

CLAWKED - Scratched with finger nails "she clawked the other girls face"

CLOBBER - Clothing (usually clothing put on for some special activity

c **CLATTER** - to hide or beat "He needs a good clattering"

c **CLAMMED** - starved by hunger

CAUTION - a comical person a person who arouses astonishment "He is a proper caution"
- "Its a caution he couldn't visit his mother more often"

COBBED, COBB'D 'UN - A queer sort of person

CHAMBER, THE - The bedroom

CHARITY - An annual anniversary service held in nonconformist chapels

c **CAFFLE** - to abandon a plan

CHEBBIE or CHEVVIE - A starling

CHAP - a fellow of low estate (from Chapman = an itinerant trader)

CALIFUDGERY - Irregular dealings, devious sharp practices.

CAUF-LICKED - = Calf licked. Said of hair which does not lie in the same direction as the rest, appearing as licked by a calf.

CAL. CALLING - (to rhyme with shall) Gossiping. "I've been out calling all morning" Usually thought of as time wasting

CALL - to abuse or scold a person

CHUCKIE - Chuckie Hen, Chuckie Egg. Childrens talk

CARTING ON - Acting the fool

CLAP BENNY - Infants in arms were frequently asked to Clap benny i.e clap their hands often to the words -
"Clap a benny for a penny - one - two - three."

CHITTERIN' - Idle Chatter - Chattering

CLICKED - When a person formed a close and intimate relationship with a member of the opposite sex it was said they had 'Clicked'

COP IT -

CRIPPLE-HOLE - A hole in the base of a wall to allow sheep to move from one field to another. (OE Cryped = to creep)

CUSHY COW - Childs name for cow (? farm worker called them home by shouting Cush, Cush, Cush)

C CRAPS - pieces of crackling left after small chunks of fat had been rendered down. (Sold by pork butchers to be eaten cold with Salt, pepper, bread and butter) - eg Carr-Tallow-Craps.
(M.E. Crappe = residue from rendered fat)

CLOMP - to move about noisily - eg as in heavy clogs. CLOMPED CLOMPING. (Dutch Klomp - a clog.

COCKALORUM - a cheeky child, a self important (usually little) man.

D.

c **DAUBER** - A plasterer (ME dawben = to whiten, to plaster)

c **DAB-HAND** - A person demonstrating expert skill at something

c **DIRLER** - a mischievous child, a female who acts in an carefree unpredictable or unconvential manner.

c **DOAF** - dough. (bread which was undercooked is doaffy)

e **DUB** - Pool of water (ME. Dubbe = a pool, a word of Scandinavian origin)

c **DEUCE** - Interjection "What the deuce have you been doing"
(? from OE & Goth. Dues = a spectre. Wm Carr Dialect of Craven)? the devil

c **DUMPS** - A sad pensive mood

c **DOCKEN** - The Dock plant. Genus Rumex (O.E Docce) leares were applied to nettle stings to alleviate pain.
A broken down cottage in the corner of a field on Conondey Woodside, probably surrounded by docks was facetiously referred to by old Conondey people as "Docken Hall"

DOLLY TUB

DOLLY STICK

DOLLY PEGS

D

DONE - Astonished in a disappointing way "I wor reight done when she refused to come to the party"

DONE - exhausted "I wor fair done by t'time i'd finished"

DONE-SPELL - a sudden spell of tiredness from which one soon recovers

DICKY BIRD - Childrens name for any kind of bird
- a head louse the eggs of which were called Nits.

DINGE - a depression made by a blow - a dent.

DONK - to make wet "He donked the biscuit in his teacup"

DOORSTON' - Flags or paving in front of a door.

DRINKINGS - Refreshment given to labourers/workmen midway between meals

DROP-BOX - Small box with slit in top given to children to save their money.

DEMIC - Blight, desease or damage on fruit or root vegetables

E.

ELIKER - Vinegar . from Alegar

EASING - overhanging eaves of a house
"Isycles in eresynges" (William Langland - piers ploughman 1362)

EASING TROUGHS -

EDGE O' DARK - early evening

EIGH-UP - look out, take notice

EFTA - After

END IRONS -

ESTEEAD - Instead

EYNE - plural of eye

ENOUGH - When food was cooked or baked sufficiently it was said to be "enough" i.e. fit to be eaten.

c **FOG** - New grass growing after annual mowing

c **FELTERED** - Entangled

c **FELL** - Hill, Mountain (OE from O Norse fell, fjall)

c **FEARFUL (LY)** - very, exceeding "He was fearful tall"

c **FEST** - put out to grass "I have my sheep fest-out farther up t'dale"

c **FASHION** - to presume "I don't know how she can fashion to ask such a favour"

c **FASHION** - State of health "I'me in just a bit better fashion at the moment" (usually used by someone who does not regularly enjoy good health)

c **FENT** - A remnant of cotton material

c **FETTLE** - 1 Condition "I'me in poor fettle at present"

c - 2 to put in order "That cart will be as good as new when I have fettled it up" (M.E. fetlen = to shape, prepare)

c **FRATCH** - to quarrel.

c **FIDGET** - a restless person (ME ficchan = to move restlessly)

c **FLAY, FLAYSOME** } Afraid, frighten "I hope I shall not be flayed out of it"
FLAYED, FLAID } frightening, fright (W Shakespear - Winters tale)

c **FLIT** - to move house (ME flitten - of Scand orig) (Perhaps same as OE fleotan = to float)

c **FOLK** - relatives, family "Our folk" = our family

c **FUDGE** - a diminutive fat person "She was a little fudge"

c **FRAME** - to attempt "I didn't know how to frame to do that sort of a job"
"He does not seem to frame very well" = a poor attempt
"He's framing much better now" = showing improvement
"Tha' frames like a man med'o' band" a hopeless attempt.

c **FRAMATION** - mode of contriving or skill in performing a job "He has no framation in him"

c **FOTHER** - Fodder, animal food, (OE Foðer)

FOTHERGANG - passageway along the front of cattle-stalls to facilitate the feeding

FARDING - a farthing ($\frac{1}{4}$ penny) (OE feoðung)

FUSS-POT - a person excessively particular about trifling matters

FUSSY-BETTY - an excitable type of woman often given to much flattery.

FUZZ-BALL - A puff-ball - fungi

c **FULLOCK** - to fall with some force "He went wi' a reight fullock" (Wm Carr in 'Dialect of Craven 1828. gives a schoolboy use of this word meaning an unfair movement in a game of taws - i.e. to project the taw with a jerk of the whole hand instead of the correct flick of the thumb only)

c **FLEAK (FLEEAK)** - A rack consisting of a number of staves which was suspended from the kitchen ceiling for the purpose of drying oatcakes - its more recent use was for the drying or rather airing of clothes

FAST - Unable to come to a decision - at a loose end "The children get fast what to do with themselves in wet weather"
"The question was not an easy one and I was fast what to say"

FROST - not genuine "I'me suspicious of the man, I think he's a bit of a frost"

FENIAN - greedy, rapacious "He sat down at the table and eat like a fenian" - (Legendary Irish Warrior, secret Irish society dedicated to overthrow of British rule) (only heard used by people born before 1900)

FRAE - from. (O.N fra)

FOTCH - fetch

FON | FAN - found "I fon mi knife 'at I'd lost"

G.

GAD, GADDING - Selling off in search of pleasure

GAIT - right of stray in Common field or moor for cattle or sheep

GALLASSES - Braces

GAM - Sport, willing (from Game?) "I think youare very gam"

GANG - to go, to walk "I'll have to be ganging now" Gangway, fothergang etc.

GAMMY - lame leg (O.N.Fr Gambe = leg)

GAB - volubility of tongue - idle chatter "He's got t'gift o't'gab"

GAUKY - tall thin person

GAUM (GORM) - to heed "He took no gaum of me" (O.N. gaumr = to heed)
- sense "He's no gaum about him"

GAUMLESS (GORMLESS) - vacant, thoughtless, simple. The expression "He IS a gaumless-morning" was often used.

GAUP (GAWP) - to stare vacantly with open mouth. (ME galpen=to yawn or gape)

GASTON (GAST'UM) - energetic woman who sticks at nothing

GALLIVANT - to trip off, to flirt.

G.

c GILL (GHYLL) – A ravine, a small valley with stream (ME Gille, ON Gil)

c GIMMER – female sheep, yearling lamb, (ME gymmer, ON gymbr)

c GINNEL – a narrow passage (OE Gin = hiatus)

c GIRD – a fit or spasm "a dizzy gird" "a gird of laughter" (ME Girden = to strike)

c GOIT (GOYT) – a channel of water from a mill dam (e.g to a water wheel)

c GOWL – gum of the eye

c GREAT – "Nowt sa great" = not too well or not too good

c GRADELY – decent, worthy, respectable "shoo is a gradely lass"

GILL – Measure of capacity in this area was $\frac{1}{2}$ pint (not $\frac{1}{4}$ pt as in Imperial Measure)

c GIVE – to chastise "I'll give it thee if tha doesn't behave thi sen"

GEE-GEE – childs name for a horse – Gee-ing on = keep going.

"GOODNESS" – Congealed juices in pan after cooking meat.

GAT – Got "I gat fed-up a waiting for 'im"

GAV – Gave "I gav owwer bothering"

H.

c **HANCUTCHER** – An handkerchief

c **HAPPEN** – used as an adverb = probably, perhaps "Happen ir will, or happen ir nowt" "happen ir will be fine tomorrow"

HASH – to spoil "Nay – tha's med a reight hash on it now"

HARDING – a course cloth woven from hemp etc used for sacking and as a base and backing for pegged rag rugs

c **HAVERCAKE** – thin oatcakes made by throwing the mixture on to a backstone. then dried by hanging ir over a fleak.

HANDS TURN – Idleness "Will not do a hands turn" = too lazy to do anything

HEART-TREE – the hinged heel of a gate on to which the bars are fitted

c **HEFT** – a handle (of a knife, scythe etc) (OE Hoefr)

c **HIG** – a passion, tantrum, violent commotion of the mind. "When I would not let him play out he flew into a right hig"
The blustery winds often occurring in March were known as "March Higs"

c **HIND** – a herdsman

HINGINGS – the hinges of a gate Hing = to hang

c HOIT - a spoiled child "stop crying you petted hoit!)

c HOINED - oppressed, ill-treated (usually used regarding a woman)
"She looks hoined to deeath" (OE Hean = poor common subject of ill usage)

c HOUPY - a childrens name for a horse; a small light horse

HOD-ON - hold tight, wait a minute

HOUSE - principal living room in a house "Take that chair out of the kitchen into the house" "We spend all our time in the house and very rarely use the front room"

HUG - to carry "the load was too heary for me to hug"
HUGGIN - a large heary load.

HUGGON - The hip, but now solely used by farmers in connection with sheep (Advert - lost Dalesbred Tup - red T left huggon)

HUB - small cock of hay. made by bringing together two footcocks

HOCKER - to clamber or climb awkwardly to do a piece of work
- children climbing on the furniture "stop hockering please"

HOPPLE - to walk with difficulty, to hobble (a sheep would be hoppled i.e have two legs on one side tied together to prevent it from jumping over walls)

H

Heaf - heath "heaf going sheep"

HIME - Hoar-frost - Ryme or Rime (OE Hrym)

I. J

C

ING - A marshy meadow. often in river valleys. (Common to Danish Islandic and Old English)

INTAKE - A field enclosure taken in from Common or Moor.

JIMP - to indent

JINNY-SPINNER - the Crane-fly Tipula paludosa, also called Daddy Long-legs (but by Wm Carr 1828 Harry Longlegs)

JOHN-JOSEPH - Anything long and lanky "a long John-Joseph"

K

c **KECK, KECKER** - to refuse with disdain

KECKER-HEARTED - finicky and difficult to please with regard to food
"Eat it up! dont be so keckerhearted"

c **KEX (KECKSY)** - Any of the large Umbelliferous plants

c **KEISTY** - Difficult to please in diet. to look on new foods with suspicion

c **KEN** - to know, to recognise (OE Cennan = to make known; ON Kenna = to perceive)
"I kenned him straight off, though I've nivver sin him for years"

c **KIPPER** - a lively excited child "Quieten down you giddy kipper!"
"you are a couple of giddy kippers!" (Wm Carr 1828 gives the discription - a lively lightfooted nimble person)

c **KIST** - a chest "an old oak kist" (ME Kiste = a chest)

KILTERMENTS - tackle, trappings, paraphanalia.

c **KET** - rubbish, not worth considering, unpalatable food
(Wm Carr 1828 gives the definition - Carrion)

c **KIT** - a metal can with tight fitting lid to transport milk
(ME Kitt, Kyt = a tub; MD. Kitte = a jug or vessel)
(Wm Carr 1828 describes it as a milking pail)

K.

c KINNIN(G) - Crack in the hand occasioned by frost

c KINK - to be affected by a convulsive stoppage of breath through crying, laughing or coughing.

c KITTLE - difficult, delicate or risky to deal with (OE Northern, Kytyllen)

c KIZZENED - dry, parched

c KYTLE - a short coat worn by countrymen (OE cyrtel)

KETTLED - drunk

L.

c **LACE** - to beat "That lad needs a good lacing"
"I didn't half lace into him"

c **LAITHE** - a barn

c **LAIKE, LAIKING** - to play "And if hym luste for to layke" Piers Ploughman 1362 (of Scandinavian origin). Play is not entirely synonymous with laike. One would laike football, rounders, draughts etc or any sort of childrens playground games but never laike the piano, violin or any other musical instrument. Children could laike indoors or outside. If a factory was closed for any reason the workers would say they were laiking, but actors on a stage would never be said to be laiking their parts.

c **LATT** - a lathe a thin person would be described as "thin as a latt" (OE laett. OHG Latta)

c **LAWS** - an expression of surprise or astonishment. (perhaps the pronunciation 'lors' indicates it is a substitute for Lord, Oh Lord once considered a profanity)

c **LEARN** - to teach, now considered ungrammatical "That'll larn thi!"

c **LIEF** - soon, gladly, readily "I'de as lief jump in the river as agree to that suggestion"

c **LAST LEGS** - "He's on his last legs" = on the point of death

c LEET, LET – to meet "I leer/let on owd John down't village"

c LIG – to lay (OE liggan) used frequently by Chaucer and Shakespeare.

c LIKE – frequently used as an expletive "How are you doing, like" "I went to bed early, like". The expression "Better na like" means better than expected

c LILILOW – a bright flame. (Before the advent of electric lighting the person sitting by the fireside was often asked to "poke the fire and make a lililow"

c LISH – active agile and supple person "She's very lish for her age"

c LITHE, LITHING – a thickening for stews etc made with flour and water or oatmeal and milk

c 'LIVER – to deliver – 'livverin' newspapers

c LONG HUNDRED = 120 – ten dozen or six score Eggs were sold in bulk quantities by the 'long hundred'

c LOPP – a flea "As lively as a lop" (OE Loppe)

LOST – dirty "That house accros the road is lost" = needs a good clean (perhaps originally 'lost i' muck'

LOUP (LOWP) - to leap (OE Hleapan, OHG Hlouffan)(ON. Hlaupa)

LOLLOP - to walk with an undulating motion.

LUGS - the ears (ME luggen)

LIMB - a mischievous child (perhaps originally a 'limb of the devil'

LADING-CAN (pronounced Layding Can) Vessel, usually of metal with a handle used for ladling - e.g. water from fireside boiler, emptying a bath etc.

LOWZE - to loosen "I wor that warm I had to lowze mi coit (coat)"

M.

c MAD – "Off like mad down the road" ? like a mad-man ?

c MADDLED – Confused, muddled

c MAISTER – Master "That child needs maistering!"

MARRED – Spoilt (usually used in connection with an over-indulged child)

c MARROW – an equal, a fellow, mate, companion
– an identical object "you see that vase – I have the marrow to it"

(c) MARNDER – Maunder, to wander idly about.

c MAUPING – to mope, brooding or listless

c MAWK – a maggot. Also used to describe a sullen, objectionable person

MARY-ANN – an effeminate male "He's a bit Mary Annish"

c MASH – to brew. (In Craven the word was used in connection with the infusion of tea as well as the usual usage i.e of malt in a brewery)

MARLARK – (emphasis on first sylable) – to act the fool "Marlarking around"

c MELL – to meddle, to harm. "dont be frightened the dog won't mell on you"

MONNY – Many "The' wor monny a dezen fowk theer"

c **MEWED-UP** - Crowded, unable to move because of clutter
(? OE Mewe=a cage for hawks - perhaps being confined in a small space is the origin of Mewed-up ?)

c **MIDDLIN'** - tolerably well (Nobbut Midlin' = not very well at all)

c **MIDDEN** - a place set aside for for dung or household refuse

c **MOIDER** - to confuse, to distract "I canit do mi baking when all the children are around. I get too moidered. (In some areas the word is pronounced Moither - the variation has its origin in the former use of the Anglo-Saxon letter ð = dh (as in though)

c **MOSS** - A peat bog.

MONKEYBANKS - to tipple monkeybanks = to do a somersault.

c **MULLOCK (MULLOXED)** - Mixed up, Confused (OE Mullock = rubbish)

c **MUCKMENT** - anything worthless

c **MUN** - Must "Where I am ye moun not come" John VII Wyclif trans.
(OE Mun, Mon = must. ON Mon = shall)

c **MOIL** - to labour, to drudge, outfaced by work (? perhaps from turmoil)

c **MUD** - might "I mud as weel go home, it looks like rain"

MUMMERS - It was the custom on New years eve for village children to dress up in disguise with blackened faces to walk uninvited into peoples homes and sweep ashes from the hearth - symbolic of sweeping the old year out - and at the same time making a low murmering noise. Money was expected to be given to them. The last time I remember it being done in Coronley was sometime in the 1960's when the Hanson children from Nethergill House came to our house to carry out the tradition

MUSSENT } - Must not
MU'ANT }

MAUNGY - Sullen, unsociable. (? perhaps from the dejected appearence of an animal suffering from mange)

MISTAIN - Mistaken

N.

c **NAB** – to catch unexpectedly (perhaps by alteration from Nap a word of Scandinavian origin = to seize)

NAIG – a slight but persistant pain or annoyance (OE gnagan = to gnaw)

c **NATTER** – to wory over trifles (Not the same as the modern informal
– to distract one word Natter meaning to chatter or gossip)

NA-THEN (NOW THEN) – a casual greeting needing no reply.

c **NAUP** – to strike on the head ? Perhaps from Knap – ME Knoppen = to hit, strike blow eg. Knap flints

NIPSCREW – A mean niggardly person

NOGGIN – A small measure of spirits ($\frac{1}{4}$ pint)

c **NOBBUT** – None but, no more than, only "I nobbut cost a shilling"
"He wor nobbut a lad"

c **NOWT** – Nothing
– A worthless person "He's a little 'nowt'"

NOWTER – A person not to be trusted.

NOWT A POUND – said of a worthless person "I allus said he wor nowt a pound"

OFF-CUMMED'UNS – Strangers, new commers to the district

OWT – Anything, aught "I cant tell you owt"

OSSITY – A queer, moody person with strange ways "He's a funny ossity"
(? perhaps a variation of oddity, or maybe derived from ossify = to become rigid in habit or attitude)

OWE – (to rhyme with low), a word said to command attention – listen – come here "Owe! I want a word with you"

OWD NICK – the devil (O.Dan. Nicken = diety of the waters)

OWD HARRY – "He off down that road like Owd Harry" = went at great speed

ONNY BIT LIKE – tolerable, decent, likely "I come tomorrow if t'weather's onny bit like"

OWWER, OVVER – Over

OWWER'D WI' – done, finished, completed.

O-DEAR – pronounced in different ways signifies –
Ay-dear = weariness
Oh-dear = surprise
aw-dear = sympathy.

OUTFACED – Satiated, more than be accommodated or dealt with.

c PAID - Tired out "I wor fair paid when I'd finished work"

c PAISTY - pale "Do you feal alright - you look a bit paisty?"

c PALMS - branches of 'pussy' willow used to decorate churches on palm Sunday.

c PAN - to fit well, to agree. "On her first day at work she panned in very well"

c PASH - a heavy fall of rain

c PASSION DOCK - Polygonum Bistorta or Snakeweed grows in damp places used for making Dock pudding during Lent

c PAUK - to walk about aimlessly "He's pauking about down the garden"

c PAUP, PAUPING - same meaning as above

c PAUT - to paw or touch with the fingers

c PAUTS - fingers "Keep your pauts off those cakes!"

c POIT - to poke or touch with the feet

c PEEAK - to perch "What are you doing peeaking indoors on such a nice day?"

c **PEFF, PEFFIN'** – a slight irritating cough "always coughing & peffing"

e **PAUSE** – to kick "I'll pause his backside if I catch him"

C **PERK – PERKY,** – Proud, jaunty, cocky "You're very perky tonight"
(ME perken = to behave jauntily)

c **PETTED** – Indulged, spoilt, peevish "A petted hoyt" = a spoilt child

PET-LIP – a sagging lower lip of a sulking child

PEGGS, PEGGIES, TUSHY-PEGGIES – Teeth in childrens talk.

PEGGED RUG – Rugs made from strips of cloth cut from worn-out clothes which were pegged or prodded through a piece of stretched harding to make a close thick pile.

c **PIKE** – a large cock of hay made by bringing together several hubs, made to resist showers of rain until leading-in could take place

PIKE – pick "You dropped it so you must pike it up" "Your always Picking + piking"

PLUMB – "That man's not plumb" an informal way of saying 'mentally disordered'

PLONK – to place an object down with force

PLONKER – a big one

c POKE – a small sack. (The expression 'a pig in a poke' was used by Wm Langland in Piers Ploughmen 1362) (OE Pocca = a bag)

c POUK – a pimple, a sty.

POSS – to shake violently in water

POSSER – a laundry implement to agitate water in a dolly tub.

POWL (POLL) – (pronounced like Roll) to stride out
"I walked with the children while he powled on in front"

c POW, POWED – A haircut (from Poll = to crop, to shear, to cut horns of cattle)

POLLY – a hornless cow

POPPY-GEE – a childrens name for a horse

c PRATLY – Softly, delicately "She came down the stairs very pratly"

PRATE – To talk incessantly and often meaninglessly. "He was always prating on about the old days" (ME & MD praten, akin to Prattle)

c PUSS – a contemptuous name for a woman e.g. "Sour-puss"

PROG, PROGGIN' - the act of collecting sticks for kindling or wood for the fire. Also the activities of children in collecting combustible material for bonfires on November 5th plot night.

C PUNCH - In Craven this word invariably was used to indicate a kick with the foot e.g in a game of football rather than the more general use of the word as an action of the fist.

POBS - A mixture of hot boiled milk and bread to which a small spoonful of treacle may be added.

PATENT - ? "How are you?- nowt parent thank you" = not particularly well

PART - a fair number "It was a cold wet day but there were part folk about"

R.

C **RAM** - fetid, acrid, pungent, rank (OE Hramsa = wild garlic)

RAMISH - Butter when most of it was produced locally would be often said to be ramish if the flavour was affected in consequence of cows feeding off Ramsons (wild garlic) growing at the edge of woodland

RAMMY - a feeling of being unwell, possibly through eating something disagreeable "I was all right this afternoon, but after tea I began to feel rammy" "I had this rammy feeling in my stomach"

C **REACH** - to retch, to have a strong inclination to vomit. (OE Hræcan = to spit or hawk phlegm) "I reached a good deal but could not be sick"

C **REACH-TO** - An invitation to help oneself at the table

C **REASTY** - rancid. (used in connection with bacon)

RAIKES - a dialect word from the Norse applied to a steep portion of road.

RANTER - An impolite name for a member of the Primitive Methodist denomination

RATTY - Angry, irritable, short-tempered

R.

c **RATTAN** – a rat. "And praid him that he him wolde sell
Som poison that he might his ratouns quell"
Chaucer, Pardoners Tale

"Mend t'bottom o'that door or you'll her t'rattans in"

c **RARELY** – Very well "He looks rarely" = he looks very well

c **RAMILE** – underwood & twigs gathered for kindling the fire
– often it was used to indicate worthless or cheap goods –
"They are nowt but rubbish and ramile"

c **RECCAN** – An iron bar over a fire on which to hang cooking pots
(O.E. Reccan = to stretch)

c **RECKON** – to suppose, to pretend
e.g. Boys at play "They are reckoning to be cowboys"
"He reckons to be an expert but I dont think he is"

c **REIGHT** – Sane, right in the head. "I dont think that fellow is just reight"
= I dont think he is of sound mind.

c **REAP-UP** – to bring to notice a persons failings in the past.

e **RIGGED** – a sheep on its back unable to get up and right itself.
– (OE. Hrycg = ridge or back)

e **RIFT** – to belch.

RIVE, RIVVEN, ROVVEN , - to rent or tear with force

"I saw him rive the paper into pieces"

"He said he had rivven it in a temper"

"I noticed his coat was all rovven at the bottom"

RICK – Reek, smoke, vapour, stink (OE rec = smoke)

RUN – cost "What's Tomatoes running at just now?" = what is the present cost of tomatoes?

RUM – Queer, strange "You're a rum lad" "Its all very rum"

RIGHT – Real, really, very much. "Right poorly" "right Glad" "right sorry" etc etc.

c **SACKLESS** - dispirited, listless

c **SAD** - stiff, heavy, solid. Imperfectly baked bread was said to be sad

c **SAM, SAM-UP** - to pick up, to gather "Get those grass cuttings sammed-up before it rains!" The term was often used in connection with courting couples - "I saw you samming her up after the dance last night"

c **SAY** - obedient "That dog is very good to say"
"I'me tired of looking after those children - they will not be said"

c **SATTLE** - Settle. "Sit down and let your dinner sattle"
"took good sattlings" = stayed a good while.

c **SAME, SEAM** - Hogs fat, Lard, thick seam tripe.

c **SAIG** - to saw (an unskilled violin player could be described as "saiging away")

c **SAUCE, SAUCING** - to scold mildly (It would often be said to a young baby making its first growling kind of noise "Who's saucing?"

c **SCUFT** - Nape of the neck "Ah got od on him bi t'scuft o't'neck"

c **SCUTTER** - to scamper, to scurry around

SCUTTERING - excessively small "The house had only a scuttering little kitchen"

SCRAT – A woman who is always cleaning the house obsessively
'Scratting' = Continually cleaning

SCRAMBLER } – The old Skipton custom of Scrambling was observed
SCRAMBLING } – annually on New Years Morning when the scramblers (local youths) would gather and go round all the shops in the High Street shouting – Hurrah! if the shop-keeper threw out, nuts, apples, pennies etc for which they scrambled, or Boo! if the shopkeeper refused or ignored them. (I don't remember it being observed after the early 1940's)

SCROW – Wm Carr (1828) defines this word as 'to labour and toil hard for a living – e.g "he works and scrows" nowadays the meaning has changed to 'Scrowing about' = 'always doing something' not however toiling hard.

SEG – a hard patch of skin on the sole of the foot

SEAL, SEALING – to fasten or tie cattle in their stalls
"The Skippon has sealing for 20 cattle"

SEARCHING – piercing, keen. often said of strong laxative
"that working medicine was rather searching"

SET – put off "The sight of all that rich food fair set me"

SEEDY – Slightly unwell

S

c **SEN** – Self (a contraction of the OE word selven = self)

c **SHIPPEN, SHIPPON** – a building to house cows
(ME Shepen ; OE Scypen)

c **SHOON** – plural of shoe. "I've bought some new shoon"

SHOO – She

c **SHUTT** – to get rid of "You aught to get shut of that old table"
"Good shutness" = good riddance

c **SHUTTER** – A fall eg of earth.

c **SHUFFLE MUCK** – a disrespectful name for an insignificant, untidy and diminutive person

c **SHOT-ICE** – Sheer ice, very slippery

c **SHEARLING** – Young sheep once sheared

c **SIDE** – put away "It's time you were siding up now children"
= put your toys away. "That shed needs a good side up"

SIDE – "I feel a bit on the better side" – in better health at present

SAL – Shall "What sal a' do"

SILE – a sieve or strainer especially one used in the dairy treatment of cows milk (OE Syl = to strain)
"It's siling it down" = raining very fast.

SITHERS – Scissors

SITHA, SETHA – See thou! look here!

SKELLERED – Warped, twisted

SLODS, SLODDING – old worn footwear, to shuffle about in old footwear
"I forgot and went down the street in my old slodds"
"these shoes are quite worn but they will do for slodding about the house"

SLAPE – Slippery "Be careful when you go out – it's varry slape"

SLIR, SLUR – to slip or slide (ME Sloor = mud; LG Slurrn = shuffle) akin to slurry.

SLITHER, SLUTHER – to slide (OE Slidan; ME Slideren)

SLAT – to splash (O.N Sletta = to slap, to throw)

SLEG – a piece of poor-burning stony coal – slag

SLECK – to slake, to extinguish (OE Slacian | sleac)

SLOPSTON – a stone slab sink in a kitchen

SMITTLE – Infection (ME Smiten = to smite)
SMITTLED – Infected (OE Smitan = to pollute, to smear)
SMITTLING – Infectious (OHG bismizen = to defile)

SNECK – latch of a door (ME Snekke)

SNICKET – a narrow gap in a wall, short narrow pathway

SNOD – Smooth "These boots have no grip – the soles are snod"

SNEW – (to rhyme with new) to turn up ones nose with contempt
(ME Snure = snout)

SPRAGS – Nails

SOSS – to drink noisily (like the lapping of a dog)
to a child – "Drink nicely please and stop sossing!"

SOONER – rather "

SPICE – a sweet

SPIT. SPITTEN – perfect likeness "That lad is t'spit of his father"

SPELL – a small splinter of wood
SPILL – thin sliver of wood used to carry a light e.g from the fire to a lamp

SPLIRT - to stream out of a small orifice with some force

STELE - a handle of a broom, rake etc.
"But the tale is not worth a rake-stele" Chaucer wife of Bathis Tale

STIR - a commotion "His visit caused quite a stir"
"And lo! a great styring was maad in the see" Matt VIII. Wyclifs trans.

STIR - a social event or family gathering

STALLED - tired, had enough, fed-up (perhaps from stall-fed = filled to satiety)

STEW - A state of great perplexity.
being upset by an awkward happening of any sort "She was in a stew"

SPEYK - a saying, maxim or proverb.

SPEW - to vomit (O.E spewen)

SPLATHER - to make unnecessary fuss "When the visitors arrived she made such a big splather"

SPLOTHER-FOOT - A person who walks with the feet turned out

STICK - a queer fellow. "funny old stick" "Mangy old stick" "Grumpy old stick"

STAW - to straw = to spread out grass to dry

STALKEN, STORKEN - Greasy food which has gone cold and congealed is said to have stalkened (OE Stearc = stiff, OHG starc = strong)

STARVED - "Starved ta deeath" in Craven means extremely cold not hungry.

STRICKLE - a tool for sharpening scythes made from carborundum but in earlier days it was a piece of wood which was first greased then strewn with sand.

STEPMOTHER-BLESSING - a crack in the cuticle surrounding the finger nail which becomes sore.

SWIG - to drink quickly in long draughts.

SWANKY - a summer drink, a kind of herb beer

SLOPS - liquid food e.g. gruel "He is very poorly - just on slops"

SUITED - agreeably pleased "I called with a bunch of flowers and she was "right suited"

SHOP - place. "I wouldn't swop shops (places) wi' 'im at no price" "What sort of a shop (place) is Brighton".

SUMMAT - Something. "Summat and nowt" = a trifle, no worth bothering about

T

TAN – to beat "I'll tan your backside when I get hold of you!"

TARN – a small lake (ME Tarne, ON Tjörn)

TACK – food "Rum tack" = unappetising food

THAT IS WHAT } That is all
THAT WILBE WHAT } That will be all

TIME – Apprenticeship "He served his time to printing"

TILL – Manure, fertiliser. "I put a lot of till on that meadow"

TEW, TOW } (The pronunciation of this word is difficult to convey on paper)
TEUGH, TOUGH } – to labour hard, to struggle with a difficult job.
"I tewed all morning trying to dig a hole for a gatepost"
"Stop teughing yourself you'll have time to finish it tomorrow"
"I've had a hard day, I feel reight tewed" = exhausted

THICK – Intimate, on familiar terms, "As thick as thieves"

TEWIT – A pewit or Lapwing

TAWS – Marbles (usually the ones made of clay)

TUP – a male sheep (ME tupe = a ram)

c c THRANG, THRONG - busy (OE thrang, gethrang = to press, a crowd)
"I've been throng ivery bit o' this day"

c THREAP, THREAP DOWN - to argue and affirm positively.
"He threap't me down that I'd nivver paid him that money I owed him"

c TIDY-BETTY - an ornamental metal movable screen to stand in front of the "ass-hoil" to stop the ashes falling out of the fire from spilling out on to the hearth.

c TIG - to touch - hence the childrens game 'Tiggy'

c TIKE - a fellow of scruffy appearance "a mucky tike"
c. (ME Tyke . ON Tik = a bitch)

c TICE, TICING - allurement, to entice "Let me not hearken to the tising of the ungodly" - Primer of King Henry VIII.

TIGSER - a pet name for a boy

c THEIR - frequently used for the objective pronoun them "Help their selles"
= helped themselves

c THINK ON! = Remember "You must be ready by six o'clock - thinkon!"

T.

THIBLE - A wooden spatula for stirring porridge

TODDY - Small (? from a former unit of weight for wool of 28lbs ?)

T'OWD LAD - The devil.

TOITING - pottering around "I toited in t'garden all morning"

TRASH - tiresome walking "trashing about town"
"I've had a trashy day"

TWIG - to see, to perceive.

TWILT - a Quilt

TWITCH - Quitch or couch-grass

TWINED - peerish, bad-tempered

THOIL -

TWELVEMONTH - A year "I havn't seen him in a twelvemonth" -
= It must be over a year since I last saw him

TAKE-ON - Notice or acknowledge
"I tried to attract her attention but she wouldn't take-on"

TUMMLE

U.

UPPING - point, crisis "When it comes to the upping he's never there"

US - (pronounced halfway between As and Us). plural pronoun used for the objective singular "Us Aunt Hannah" = my Aunt Hannah
"Help us on with ~~this~~ us coit" = help me on with ~~this~~ my coat.

VARRY

W

C **WALLOP, WOLLOP** – to beat "He needs a good wallop"
a "Cow-Wallopper" = a cattle drover
(O.NF Walop = to gallop)

C **WALLOW, WOLLOW** – tastless, insipid (pronounce to rhyme with Allah)

C **WARR** – Worse "T'job seems to be gettin' warr" (Pronounced like CAR)

C **WARSEN, WASSEN** – grow worse "T'weather's wassened since dinner time"

C **WHATSOMIVVER** – Whatsoever

WEDDER – Weather

C **WATTER-SHARKEN** – originally land that was waterlogged, but now humourously used to describe anyone needing to pass water frequently

C **WEATHER-BREEDER** – a cloudless sky after a succession of rainy days denotes further rain and is said to be a weather-breeder

C **WERRIT, WERRITTING** – Worry, Worrying. "Stop werritting!"

WHISHT! – be silent! Hush!

W

WELLING HEAT – a glowing red fire "It is coming in very cold, let's get a welling heat on"
(OE weallen = to boil) (ME Well = to weld)

WHITE – to whittle or cut down with a knife (OE Thwitan = to hew)

WHILE – until "stay here while I come back"

WHANG – to throw with force (O.E. Thwang) "he whang'd it on t'floor"

WICK – Active, Agile (by alteration from Quick = alive)

WICK – lousy, infested with parasites

WICK-THINGS – creepy-crawly insects ? from O.E. Wicga = insect ?

WI'T' – With the

WODTA – Wouldest thou "Wodta come a walk wi' me t'neet"

WORKING MEDICINE – A laxative

WAFFY (WAUGHY) – faint, sickly

WARK
WEEL
WESH
WOD
WHEER

X-Y-Z

YARK - to snatch or pluck, to pull with a jerk.

YOLLER - yellow

WELLAWAY = fortunate (not as OED = Alas &c)

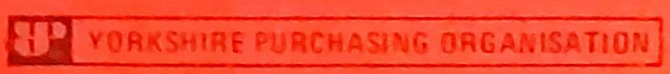
"If he gets promoted he will be 'wellaway'"

"She will be 'Wellaway' when she inherits her uncles money"

B

BAHT - without, except. (Scottish BOT e.g. MacPherson clan motto = 'Touch not the cat bot a glove'

BUCK & STICK - A schoolboys game similar to Knur & Spell


YORKSHIRE PURCHASING ORGANISATION